

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the specification as indicated hereafter. [Use ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter (or double square brackets "[[]]" if the strikethrough is not easily perceivable, *i.e.*, "4" or a punctuation mark) and underlined for added matter.]

1-238. (Canceled)

239. (Currently amended) A method for providing television ~~content instances~~ services by a television set-top terminal ("STT"), comprising:

responsive to a first user input,

receiving by the STT information corresponding to a first user-defined time interval, the start and end times of the first user-defined time interval corresponding respectively to a user-selected start time and a user-selected end-time, ~~user input including information for~~

receiving by the STT at least one parameter corresponding to associating a user preference, ~~preference corresponding to at least one parameter and first time interval;~~

~~responsive to receiving the first user input,~~

storing data in memory of the STT associating ~~identifying the association of the at~~ least one parameter with the first user-defined time interval[[]] , and enabling access to purchasable television services during the first user-defined time interval according to the at least one parameter;

responsive to a second user input,

receiving by the STT a request for a purchasable ~~second user input requesting an interactive guide that lists identifications of television content instances; and service corresponding to the at least one parameter,~~

~~responsive to receiving the second user input,~~

accessing the data in memory of the STT associating ~~displaying the interactive guide, including listing in a promoted manner at least one television content instance identification in the interactive guide based on a comparison of interactive guide programming data,~~ the at least one

~~parameter[[,]] and with the first user-defined time interval, wherein the at least one television content instance identification listed in a promoted manner is listed along with other television content instance identifications that are not listed in a promoted manner.~~

determining whether the request is for viewing the purchasable television service during the first user-defined time interval,

enabling by the STT a purchase of the purchasable television service responsive to determining that the request is for viewing the purchasable television service during the first user-defined time interval, and

preventing by the STT the purchase of the purchasable television service responsive to determining that the request is for viewing the purchasable television service outside the first user-defined time interval.

240. (Currently amended) The method of claim 239, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one television content instance identification in the interactive guide comprises listing at the least one promoted television content instance identification ahead of the television content instance identifications that are not listed in a promoted manner on the interactive guide~~ the first user input is received outside the first user-defined time interval.

241. (Currently amended) The method of claim 239, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one television content instance identification in the interactive guide comprises conspicuously displaying the at least one promoted television content instance identification on the interactive guide along with other television content instance identifications that are not listed in a promoted manner~~ the second user input is received outside the first user-defined time interval.

242. (Previously presented) The method of claim 239, wherein the at least one parameter corresponds to a type of purchasable television service.

243. (Previously presented) The method of claim 239, wherein the at least one parameter identifies a television service.

244. (Currently amended) The method of claim 239, wherein the data in memory of the STT associating association of the at least one parameter with the first user-defined time interval is stored in the memory for a plurality of days.

245. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[279]]~~ 239, wherein the start time of the first user-defined time interval corresponds to a first clock time, and the end time of the first user-defined time interval corresponds to a second clock time that is subsequent to the first clock time.

246. (Currently amended) The method of claim 245, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one television content instance identification in the interactive guide~~ access to the purchasable television services is enabled during a plurality of time intervals having a start time corresponding to the first clock time and an end time corresponding to the second clock time.

247. (Previously presented) The method of claim 246, wherein the plurality of time intervals occur during a plurality of respective days.

248. (Previously presented) The method of claim 239, wherein the at least one parameter is one of a program type, a channel type, a channel identity, a television service type, a service instance, a service instance type, and a service instance rating.

249. (Previously presented) The method of claim 239, wherein the user preference is selected by a user from a list of user preferences.

250. (Currently amended) A method for providing recorded television ~~content~~ instances services by a television set-top terminal ("STT"), comprising:

responsive to a first user input,

receiving by the STT information corresponding to a user-defined time interval, the start and end times of the first user-defined time interval corresponding respectively to a user-selected start time and a user-selected end time, first user input including information for

receiving by the STT at least one parameter corresponding to associating a user

~~preference, preference corresponding to at least one parameter and first time interval;~~
 responsive to receiving the first user input,
 storing data in memory ~~of the STT associating identifying the association of the at~~
 least one parameter with the first user-defined time interval, interval;
enabling recording of television services during the first user-defined time interval
according to the at least one parameter;
responsive to a second user input,
 receiving by the STT a request for ~~an interactive recordings guide that lists~~
 identifications of recorded television content instances; and recording a
television service corresponding to the at least one parameter,
 responsive to receiving the request for the interactive recordings guide;
accessing the data in memory of the STT associating displaying the interactive
recordings guide, including listing in a promoted manner at least one
recorded television content instance identification in the interactive
recordings guide based on a comparison of interactive recordings guide
programming data, the at least one parameter[[,]] and with the first user-
defined time interval, interval, wherein the at least one recorded television
content instance identification listed in a promoted manner is listed along
with other recorded television content instance identifications that are not
listed in a promoted manner.
determining whether the request is for recording the television service during the
first user-defined time interval,
enabling a recording of the television service responsive to determining that the
request is for recording the television service during the first user-defined
time interval, and
preventing the recording of the television service responsive to determining that
the request is for recording the television service outside the first user-
defined time interval.

251. (Currently amended) The method of claim 250, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one recorded television content instance identification in the interactive recordings guide comprises listing the at least one promoted and recorded television content instance identification ahead of recorded television content instance identifications that are not listed in a promoted manner on the interactive recordings guide~~ the request for recording the television service is received outside the first user-defined time interval.

252. (Currently amended) The method of claim 250, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one recorded television content instance identification in the interactive recordings guide comprises conspicuously displaying the at least one promoted and recorded television content instance identification on the interactive recordings guide~~ the at least one parameter corresponds to a type of television service.

253. (Previously presented) The method of claim 250, wherein the at least one parameter identifies a television service.

254. (Currently amended) The method of claim 250, wherein the data in memory of the STT associating association of the at least one parameter with the first user-defined time interval is stored in the memory for a plurality of days.

255. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[280]]~~ 250, wherein the start time of the first user-defined time interval corresponds to a first clock time and the end time of the first user-defined time interval corresponds to a second clock time that is subsequent to the first clock time.

256. (Currently amended) The method of claim 255, wherein ~~listing in a promoted manner the at least one recorded television content instance identification in the interactive recordings guide~~ recording of television services is enabled during a plurality of time intervals having a start time corresponding to the first clock time and an end time corresponding to the second clock time.

257. (Previously presented) The method of claim 256, wherein the plurality of time intervals occur during a plurality of respective days.

258. (Previously presented) The method of claim 250, wherein the at least one parameter is one of a program type, a channel type, a channel identity, a television service type, a service instance, a service instance type, and a service instance rating.

259. (Previously presented) The method of claim 250, wherein the user preference is selected by a user from a list of user preferences.

260. (Currently amended) The method of claim 250, wherein the first user input is received outside the first user-defined time interval.

261-278. (Canceled)

279. (Currently amended) The method of claim 239, wherein ~~a user is prompted in the interactive guide to input a~~ the user-selected start time and ~~an~~ the user-selected end time ~~defining of the first user-defined time interval~~ are two separate selections.

280. (Currently amended) The method of claim 250, wherein ~~a user is prompted in the interactive recordings guide to input a~~ the user-selected start time and ~~an~~ the user-selected end time ~~defining of the first user-defined time interval~~ are two separate selections.

281. (New) The method of claim 250, wherein a first parameter of the at least one parameter corresponds to a television service and a second parameter of the at least one parameter corresponds to enabling a recording operation.

282. (New) A method implemented by a television set-top terminal ("STT") comprising:

responsive to receiving by the STT a first user input,

defining a plurality of contiguous user-defined time intervals including a first

user-defined time interval, a second user-defined time interval, and a third user-defined time interval, the second user-defined time interval being between the first user-defined time interval and third user-defined time interval,

storing a first data in memory of the STT identifying whether a television function corresponding to a first parameter is to be enabled during the first user-defined time interval, wherein the first parameter corresponds to at least one of a television channel characteristic, a television program characteristic, and a television service characteristic, and

storing a second data in the memory of the STT identifying whether a television function corresponding to a second parameter is to be enabled during the second user-defined time interval, wherein the second parameter corresponds to at least one of a television channel characteristic, a television program characteristic, and a television service characteristic;

responsive to receiving by the STT a second user input,

receiving by the STT a request for providing during the first user-defined time interval a first television function corresponding to the first parameter,

accessing the first data from the memory of the STT,

determining from the first data whether the first television function is enabled or disabled during the first user-defined time interval,

enabling the first television function to be provided during the first user-defined time interval responsive to determining from the first data that the first television function is enabled, and

preventing the first television function from being provided responsive to determining from the first data that the first television function is disabled.

283. (New) The method of claim 282, further comprising:

receiving a request for providing a second television function corresponding to the second parameter; and

responsive to receiving the request for the second television function,

accessing the second data from the memory of the STT,

determining from the second data whether the second television function is enabled or disabled during the second user-defined time interval, enabling the second television function to be provided during the second user-defined time interval responsive to determining from the second data that the second television function is enabled, and preventing the second television function from being provided responsive to determining from the second data that the second television function is disabled.

284. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function comprises providing television program information.

285. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function comprises recording a television service.

286. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function comprises tuning to a television channel.

287. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first and second television functions are different.

288. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function is disabled during the second user-defined time interval and enabled during the first user-defined time interval.

289. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function is enabled during the first user-defined time interval and the third user-defined time interval and disabled during the second user-defined time interval.

290. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein storing the first data in the memory of the STT is responsive to receiving a third user input corresponding to the first parameter.

291. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first data in the memory of the STT is stored in the memory for a plurality of days.

292. (New) The method of claim 282, wherein the first television function is enabled during a plurality of user-defined time intervals that occur during a plurality of respective days, and wherein a duration of each of the plurality of user-defined time intervals is equal to the duration of the first user-defined time interval.

293. (New) A method implemented by a television set-top terminal ("STT") comprising:

receiving by the STT a first user input defining a plurality of contiguous user-defined time intervals including a first user-defined time interval, a second user-defined time interval, and a third user-defined time interval, the second user-defined time interval being between the first user-defined time interval and the third user-defined time interval;

receiving by the STT a second user input;

storing data in memory identifying whether a first television function is to be enabled during the first user-defined time interval responsive to receiving the first user input, wherein the first television function includes at least one of enabling recording a television service, enabling a purchase transaction, providing television program information, and tuning to a television channel;

receiving by the STT a third user input;

storing data in the memory identifying whether a second television function is to be enabled during the second user-defined time interval responsive to receiving the second user input, wherein the second television function includes at least one of enabling recording a television service, enabling a purchase transaction, providing

television program information, and tuning to a television channel;
receiving user input requesting that the first television function be provided during the
first user-defined time interval; and
responsive to receiving the request for the first television function,
accessing data in the memory identifying whether the first television function is to
be enabled during the first user-defined time interval,
determining whether the first television function is to be enabled responsive to the
data in the memory identifying whether the first television function is to
be enabled during the first user-defined time interval,
enabling the first television function during the first user-defined time interval
responsive to determining that the first television function is to be enabled
during the first user-defined time interval, and
preventing the first television function from being implemented during the first
user-defined time interval responsive to determining that the first
television function is not to be enabled during the first user-defined time
interval.

294. (New) The method of claim 293, further comprising:
receiving user input requesting that the second television function be provided during the
second user-defined time interval; and
responsive to receiving the user input requesting the second television function be
provided during the second user-defined time interval,
accessing data in the memory identifying whether the second television function
is to be enabled during the second time interval,
determining whether the second television function is to be enabled responsive to
the data in the memory identifying whether the second television function
is to be enabled during the second user-defined time interval,
enabling the second television function during the second user-defined time
interval responsive to determining that the second television function is to
be enabled during the second user-defined time interval, and
preventing the second television function from being implemented during the

second user-defined time interval responsive to determining that the second television function is not to be enabled during the second user-defined time interval.

295. (New) The method of claim 293, where the first television function comprises enabling a sales transaction.

296. (New) The method of claim 293, wherein the first television function comprises enabling recording a television service.

297. (New) The method of claim 293, wherein the first television function corresponds to a user input key.